

The Middletown Transcript

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING
—AT—
Middletown, New Castle County, Delaware
—BY—
T. S. FOURACRE.
LONG DISTANCE PHONE NO. 37.
Entered at the Post Office as second-class matter
MIDDLETOWN, DEL., APRIL 17, 1909

THE INHERITANCE TAX

President Taft strongly recommended the incorporation of an inheritance tax feature in the new tariff measure. In this he was taking the position that Mr. Roosevelt sustained, who frequently expressed his views favorably to such a measure. It will be remembered that Mr. Carnegie, in one of his striking utterances, gave his strong indorsement to this tax. He declared that the great fortunes of America have been built up through signal opportunities, that they are derived from the vast native wealth of the land, and that there is peculiar fitness in having them make recompense to American society for the special privileges through which they were amassed.

Whatever reasons exist in foreign countries for such a tax—and it has been adopted by many—these reasons are strengthened in the United States. It is not here, however, so much a case of the exigencies as the equities of taxation.

Not the least feature of the subject is that advanced by students of American society who point to the tendencies to the crystallization of massive fortunes that become pooled in the enterprise of the money kings.

Still the demand for an inheritance tax is not a class demand. It is a demand that is primal in the facts of American life. There can be no reasonable objection to it as a federal measure. The claim that the several states should derive the advantage is puerile. Enterprise in this country is national, certainly the kinds of enterprise that develop the mammoth fortunes. It is to be hoped that in the tinkering with the tariff measure, the income tax feature will not be impaired.

A TAX FOR UNEARNED MILLIONS

"A bill for a graduated inheritance tax, ranging from one per cent. on an estate of ten thousand to twenty-five per cent. on an estate twenty millions or above, was introduced at Albany recently. On the same day the newspapers reported that the heir of one of the largest American fortunes—derived from his great-grandfather—had run over from England for a fortnight to settle arrangements for the horse show, after which he would return to his regular occupation of driving the smartest coach in London. A little while before it was noted that a man who inherited a few quarter sections of land in the best part of Manhattan had decided to enliven his English house with several parties. It is estimated that two children now at school in England will receive somewhere from a quarter to half a billion dollars of American real and personal property when their grandfather's estate is divided according to the terms of his will. Such instances, which might be multiplied indefinitely, argue, even more forcefully than President Taft's inaugural recommendation, that it is high time we had, either as a Federal or State measure, a really adequate system of inheritance taxes.

"Up to this generation, sons of rich Americans, if they didn't devote themselves to dissipation, commonly continued in business—that is, they put the family pile back on the table, so to speak, where it was tolerably certain that able men would presently take it away from them. But of late, to a great and increasing degree, American wealth has been becoming practically entailed, under the form of a will leaving the estate in trust. A good many States have taken feeble steps in the right direction; but it is time for a longer step. Probably the Albany bill is too moderate. It is questionable whether any amount in excess of twenty millions should pass to individuals by inheritance."—The Saturday Evening Post.

Governor Signs a Bill

Governor Pennell has affixed his signature to the bill passed by the recent session of the General Assembly to refund to certain liquor dealers money due them on account of unexpended licenses, which they had when they were required to take out new licenses because of the change in the terms of court, and the act is now a law.

BUSY SESSION OF LEVY COURT

Most of the Time Taken in Consideration of Good Roads Plan

The members of the Levy Court at their meeting, Tuesday afternoon, spent the greater part of their time in the discussion of the good roads and road improvement question.

A. B. Boughner, a representative of a good roads improvement concern of Cincinnati, with offices in Philadelphia, appeared before the commissioners in an effort to interest them in a proposition for the binding of their old roads and in building new roads. His company prepares a sort of an oil that is spread on the road along with a covering of crushed rock that keeps the dust down and keeps it from blowing away and at the same time prevents the water from entering the road. He stated that the preparation can be bought at about \$450 a mile. As bids for the construction of new roads and the repairing of some of the old roads are to be asked for in the near future, he received the promise of the court to take his preparation under advisement.

A long discussion was entered into by the members relative to the repairing of the road from Taylor's Bridge to Flemming's Crossing. The road was built last fall, but has not been accepted. The legislature authorized the sale of county bonds to the amount of \$18,000 for the construction of the road, and when the engineers figured the costs, it was found that there would be just enough money from the appropriation to build the road if it were made four inches deep. This was done, and now it is found that the road is not sufficient to take the demands of hauling and other traffic that are made on it, and the proposition of spreading more rock on it and refashioning it is being discussed by the members of the court. It is probable that the question is one that will absorb the attention of the commissioners for some time to come, as they are not all of the same opinion relative to it.

At the morning session the members of the court heard the proposition of F. G. Weber on beautifying the lawn about the court house. He proposed to make the lawn a perpetual beauty spot by planting shrubbery and trees and small plants that survive the winter for the flowers that are annually planted there and die in the fall. He informed the court that the cost would not exceed \$300. Several members expressed themselves as being in favor of it, and others stated that they thought the lawn beautiful, as it is at the present time as set with grass. It was referred to the building committee.

The report of County Treasurer Burns was read and approved as follows:
Levy Court \$15,516.90
Special Bond Issue 12,071.24
Miscellaneous 195.53
Christiana 1,578.25
Mill Creek 1,374.10
White Clay Creek 51.53
Pondexter 135.56
New Castle 1,097.86
Del. Lion 484.22
St. Georges 1,279.34
Appoquinimink 6.94
Blackbird 37.46
Brandywine 271.59
Bids were opened as follows for construction to retaining wall in Rising Sun Lane near the railway bridge:
Horigan and Company, \$680; Isaac S. Talley, \$1,025; Joseph S. Hamilton, \$945; Bennett, Brown and Bennett, \$1,425; A. S. Reed and Brother Company, \$1,147; John Lynn, \$3.40 a perch; Robert R. Morrison, \$1,080; and Elwood Talley, \$740.

TABLE OF RAMPAGE

PRINCESS ANNE, Md., April 14—A table of ancient vintage, walking around a room and cutting up capers like a jumping-jack, is one of the twentieth century that is well calculated to drive the cold chills up and down one's spinal column on a mid-summer day, or to bring the perspiration to the surface in the teeth of a raging blizzard. The table is the property of Mrs. Williams, of Allen, Wisconsin county, who declares that on a number of occasions, special after there had been a death in the family, she has seen the hearse jump around the room like a man who has dropped a brick on his toe. There is not a neighbor of Mrs. Williams who doubts her veracity for a moment, and if they did she says she can call in witnesses to substantiate her claims for her pet. She hopes that the table will stay in the family for many generations to come, and probably it will, for there are very few persons in this world who would care to take the responsibility of looking after a table that periodically goes on a rampage.

Cure Blood, Skin Diseases, Cancer Greatest Blood Purifier Free

If your blood is impure, thin, diseased hot or full of humor. If you have blood poison, cancer, carbuncles, eating sores, scrofula, eczema, itching, rashes and bumps, scabby, pimply skin, bone pains, catarrh, rheumatism or any blood or skin disease, take Botanic Blood Balm (B. B. B.). Soon all sores heal, aches and pains stop and the blood is made pure and rich. Druggists or by express \$1 per large bottle. Sample free by writing Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga. B. B. B. is especially advised for chronic, deep-seated cases, as it cures after all else fails.

Delaware College Alumni Day

The annual Alumni Day at Delaware College has been set for June 16, which is commencement day. The reunion of the graduates has become one of the most pleasant social events of the collegiate year. The usual custom will be followed: Commencement exercises at 10:30 a. m.; alumni association meeting and dinner at 2:30 p. m.; exhibition drill by the cadet corps at 3:30 p. m.; and the farewell dance to the seniors in the evening. The present indications point to a record-breaking attendance of Delaware's alumni friends.

CURRENT PRICES

MIDDLETOWN GRAIN MARKET.
CORRECTED WEEKLY BY R. H. FRANK.
Wheat—No. 1, \$1.30; Corn—No. 2, Yellow, 70; Timothy Seed \$2.50; Cob, 70; Clover Seed, 11; Oats, 70.
MIDDLETOWN PRODUCE MARKET.
CORRECTED WEEKLY BY W. T. CONNELLEY.
Eggs, per doz., 18c; Butter, 27c; Country Butter, per lb., 27c; Creamery Butter, per lb., 27c; Lard, per lb., 11c; Live Chickens, per lb., 12c; Potatoes, 12c.

NEW JURY DRAWN

Those Who Will Serve Court at Special Session Beginning May 4th

Jury Commissioners E. L. Scott and J. William Cooch drew two jury panels Wednesday morning. The jurors will serve at the May term of the court, which opens on Monday, May 3d. However, the regular petit jurors do not have to report until the second day of the term, which will be Tuesday, May 4th, under the terms of an act passed by the last session of the Legislature. The regular petit jury panel follows:

First Representative district—Charles S. Hurlock, Joseph Hyde, Bernard Donahoe, James Elliott.
Second—William P. White, William T. Morris, William L. Dockstader.
Third—George B. Ward, Charles F. Bickel, Horace S. Allen, Henry B. McCullum.
Fourth—John N. Kates, Edward A. Parker, Charles W. Robinson, John P. Donohue.
Fifth—Charles P. Schofield, John A. Lengel, J. Harvey Bettew, John Boughman.
Sixth—Jeremiah B. Harvey, Robert Bolden.
Seventh—Harvey F. Woolen, Albert Matthews.
Eighth—Walter A. Grace, Chandler D. Lamborn.
Ninth—Lea Elliott, George Morrison.
Tenth—Arthur R. Kee, John C. Diehl.
Eleventh—Richard S. Frazer, James Recine.
Twelfth—Daniel W. Cosh, John C. Stockert.
Thirteenth—Samuel Yearly, James D. Eliason.
Fourteenth—Arthur E. Skaags, Walter S. Money.
Fifteenth—George Bradley, William S. Garland.

In addition to the regular panel a jury was drawn for the Court of Oyer and Terminer, which opens on Wednesday, May 5th. This jury is as follows:
First Representative district—Thomas A. Comegys, Alfred M. Driscoll.
Second—James H. Hanna, James Gagan.
Third—Frank E. Patterson, William H. Morris.
Fourth—Frederick G. Hinderer, Daniel E. Hangeley.
Fifth—Howard B. Springer, Philip R. Shea.
Sixth—John Atkins, Watson Talley.
Seventh—Thomas Carey, Howard Wilson.
Eighth—Arthur Whiteman, Samuel Sharpless.
Ninth—George H. Singles.
Tenth—William B. Foote.
Eleventh—John M. Burris.
Twelfth—Charles W. Jefferson.
Thirteenth—William Gilech.
Fourteenth—James A. Hart.
Fifteenth—John A. David.

WARWICK

L. B. Manlove was in Wilmington on Saturday.
Mr. T. B. Vinyard was in Philadelphia on Wednesday.
Mr. Robert Snyder spent part of the past week in town.
Miss Ethel Vinyard spent Sunday with Mrs. J. B. Stephens.
W. J. B. Lofland was in the Quaker City part of the past week.
Mrs. Louisa Crawford is the guest of her daughter in New Castle.
Miss Beulah Cullon has returned home after a lengthy visit in Washington, D.C.
Falling from a scaffold one day last week Charles Stearns fractured his right foot.
Mr. Clarence Lipsoncomb has accepted a position in Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.
Mr. and Mrs. Ulin P. Gien were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Morris, on Sunday.
Mr. John R. H. Price returned home this week, after a visit in Baltimore and Washington.
Mrs. T. P. DeVine entertained her sister, Mrs. Cunningham, of Philadelphia, over Sunday.
A. B. Merritt is building a front porch to his corner property, which adds very much to its appearance.
Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Vinyard were the guests of Mrs. Maxey Band, near Middletown, on Sunday.
Contractor Harsch has a number of men at work on the road and expects to complete it by June 15th.
Mr. S. D. Wilson entertained Mr. Edwin Spear and wife, Miss Mayne Spear and Mr. Charles Mullen on Sunday.
The services at St. Francis Xavier Church were very largely attended on Sunday. The decorations were very pretty.
Frank Filler, of Baltimore, is in town and will remain until after the completion of the road, he being employed by the State as inspector.

TOWNSEND

Miss Nellie Joiner was in Wilmington on Saturday.
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lightcap and son, of Odessa, spent Sunday with friends in town.
Mr. Elizabeth Voelkel, of Smyrna, is spending this week with Mrs. Mary E. Money.
Mrs. Henry Skaggs, of Philadelphia, was the guest of her son and family here on Sunday.
Mr. Harry Hart and son, George, of Philadelphia, was the guest of his parents here on Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hatchison and family, of Delmar, spent Sunday with relatives in town.
Misses Pearl and Little Short, of Cecilton, spent a few days last week with E. Walden and family.
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Daniels spent Saturday and Sunday with their son and family, of Wilmington.
Mrs. B. G. Lockman had as her guest on Sunday Mrs. Daisy Collins and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Dickson, of Wilmington.

THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY

The Ladies' Aid Society was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Marvel on Tuesday evening. A very pleasant time was spent by all, after which refreshments were served consisting of ice cream, cake and coffee.

NOTICE TO TAX-PAYERS

APPOQUINIMINK HUNDRED

SPECIAL SALE

Just received from New York, a well-known manufacturer's samples of beautiful waists and linen, Lingerie dresses, which we will place on sale to day. We bought these goods at a price that we can sell you at 50 per cent. less than wholesale price, as long as they last. Also sample skirts made of all-wool goods in all the new materials and shades. We can only get these skirts twice a year—Spring and Fall; so you better take advantage of them. You can buy them from \$1 to \$1 less than the regular price.

A. FOGEL,

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE

SECURITY

TRUST AND SAFE DEPOSIT CO., S. W. Cor. 6th & Market Sts. Wilmington, Del.

BANKING BY MAIL

Persons living at a distance who wish to avail themselves of our excellent banking facilities and obtain interest on their deposits, can do so by purchasing at the nearest post office, money orders payable to our order for the amounts to be deposited, and in sending these orders to us by mail, or they may send us checks or drafts payable to our order. All such remittances will be promptly acknowledged.

OFFICERS:

Benjamin Nielda, President.
John S. Clark, Vice-President.
John S. Roswell, Sec. & Trust Officer.
Scott Townsend, Treasurer.

NEW CASTLE COUNTY, SS

THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

TO THE SHERIFF OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY,

GREETING:

Whereas, Ernest T. Kimberly by his Petition to the Judges of our Superior Court, filed in the office of the Prothonotary of said Court and for New Castle County, for the cause of complaint therein alleged, has made application to our said Judge that a decree may be pronounced dissolving the marriage existing between the Petitioner and Annie Kimberly.

We, Therefore, Command You, as you were heretofore commanded, That you summon Annie Kimberly that she be and appear before the Judges of our said Court at the next term thereof to be held at Wilmington, on Monday, the third day of May next to answer the allegations of the said petitioner, Ernest T. Kimberly according to the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided, and also to do and receive what the Court shall then and there consider concerning her in the behalf as to the Court shall seem meet and consistent with the provisions of the said Act of Assembly.

And have you then there this writ.

Witness the Honorable Chas. B. Lore, at Wilmington, the First day of March, A. D. nineteen hundred and nine.

HERBERT L. RICE, Prothonotary, issued March 24, 1909.

NOTICE TO TAX-PAYERS

OF

St. Georges Hundred

The taxable residents of St. Georges Hundred, and all persons liable to pay tax in said Hundred, are hereby notified that the Taxes for the year 1908 are now due, and the undersigned Tax Collector for said Hundred, will be at the office of JOSEPH H. KIRK, in Odessa, WEDNESDAY, Y. APRIL 28th, 1909, from 9:00 A. M. to 12:00 P. M.

AT HENRY CLAY'S STORE, IN PORT PENN, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28th, 1909, from 1 P. M. to 4 P. M.

and at HIS RESIDENCE on Case street, Middletown, Del., every Saturday, from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

Tax bills may be obtained by making personal application to the Collector, or by sending written communication enclosing stamps.

EXTRACT FROM THE LAWS OF DELAWARE, GOVERNING THE COLLECTION OF TAXES OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY, SECTION 3, CHAPTER 30, VOLUME 21, LAWS OF DELAWARE, AS AMENDED.

Section 3.—That on all taxes paid before the first day of October there shall be an abatement of five per centum. On all taxes paid before the first day of December there shall be an abatement of three per centum. On all taxes paid during the month of December there shall be no abatement whatever. And on all taxes unpaid on the first day of January five per centum thereof shall be added thereto.

WALTER BEASTEN, Collector of Taxes for St. Georges Hundred.

NOTICE!

J. Harry Massey, owner and tenant of the house known as the Cantwell House, situated at Odessa, in School District No. 81, county of New Castle and State of Delaware, in compliance with the requirements of the acts of the General Assembly, in such cases made and provided, do hereby give notice that I shall apply in writing to the Court of General Sessions, in and for New Castle County, on MONDAY, the 3d day of May, A. D. 1909, before the next term of said court, for a license of said house as an inn or tavern for the sale therein of intoxicating liquors in quantities less than one quart, to be drunk on the premises, and the following respectable citizens of said School District, at least six of whom are substantial freeholders of said School District, recommend the said application, viz:

Thos. P. Wallace, Wm. R. Phillips, John E. Morris, Charles Kronsmeier, John M. Greenmiller, William Heller, Jos. Heller, Wm. E. Tucker, Jacob Muehlberger, Levi A. Plummer, Wm. W. Greenmiller, Henry Heller.

J. H. HARRY MASSEY.

Odessa, Del., April 1st, 1909.

NOTICE TO TAX-PAYERS

APPOQUINIMINK HUNDRED

SPECIAL SALE

The taxable residents of Appoquinimink Hundred, and all persons liable to pay tax in said Hundred, are hereby notified that the Taxes for the year 1908 are now due, and the undersigned Tax Collector for said Hundred, will be at the office of GEORGE M. D. HART, in Townsend, Del., SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 10, 17 and 24, 1909. From 1 to 5 o'clock, P. M.

EXTRACT FROM THE LAWS OF DELAWARE, GOVERNING THE COLLECTION OF TAXES OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY.

Tax bills can be obtained by making personal application to the Collector, or by sending written communication enclosing stamps.

An abatement of 5 per centum will be allowed on all taxes paid during the month of August.

WILLIAM C. MONEY, Collector of Taxes for Appoquinimink Hundred.

M. BANNING,

DEALER IN FINE

GROCERIES!

The home of good garden and floor seed. We have selected these from the best seedmen in the country, so if you want a good harvest you must plant good seed.

MATTINGS

Our new mattings, both China and Japanese are in. Very handsome. Long straw, reversible, in beautiful carpet effect striped or flowered designs. Japanese mattings at 25, 30, 35 to 60c per yard, cut. Less for whole roll. China mattings at 15, 20 to 25c per yard, cut. Less for whole roll.

Potter's new oil cloth for floor, table, stair and shelves. Some pretty patterns to select from.

New muslins, India Linen, long cloth cambric, Persian lawn, etc.

Table linen, towel crash and towels. A lot of Bates' seersucker in pretty patterns. We have some splendid values in brooms, scrub, white-wash and dust brushes.

Don't forget our line of Colgate's Toilet goods.

When in need of fine and fancy groceries, foreign and domestic fruits, also fresh vegetable call on us. We shall endeavor to give you goods that will satisfy and please you or money refunded.

Goods delivered from 7:30 A. M. to 12 noon, also from 4 to 6 P. M.

Long distance phone, 60.

Store open from 6 A. M. to 8 P. M.

M. BANNING.

East Main St.

Middletown, Del.

FOR SALE!

112 Acre FARM!

Situated in Cecil County, Md. 80 acres clear, balance in woodland, 3-4 mile from Railroad Station, 12 room scale roof dwelling, large barn and all other necessary outbuildings. Possession given March 25th, 1909, if desired.

Price Only \$4,000

For further particulars, apply to G. M. EVANS, Elkton, Md.

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WHAT ABOUT THAT JOB OF

Plumbing

You are going to have done this Summer?

Call and let me give you an estimate before you give your order. I am in a position to give you the very best materials in all branches of the plumbing trade. All work guaranteed to be satisfactory. I can do your

PLUMBING, STEAM FITTING, Pump and Well Work,

Or furnish you with a "BUTLER" Wind Mill or Hay Track on short notice.

If you need anything in my line, a postal card will bring me to your home.

LONG DISTANCE PHONE NO. 70

JOHN B. SPICER,

P. O. Box 81,

MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

FOR SALE!

Two nice farms of 200 acres each, good buildings; one on Bohemia River, other on Greenfrank, will be sold cheap. Also 130 acres at Warwick and 76 acres and 47 acres at Mount Pleasant, and many other, can sell them on good terms.

G. W. INGRAM, Middletown, Del.

The Globe Clothing Store

S. M. ROSENBERG, Proprietor.

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE

Suits---Snappy, Up-to-Date.

Hats and Caps---Very Stylish.

Shoes---That Can't be Beat.

See the goods displayed in our windows. Our line of Clothing from C. N. Meltsner & Brother is complete. If you care to look well and be admired

Get One of Our New Spring Suits

Our styles are snappy and up to the top notch. Our aim is to please you; our methods are modern; our stock cannot be excelled. We invite you to come and inspect our new goods.

The Transcript, \$1.

A BEAUTIFUL

Assemblage of Silks

THE figure at which our silks are marked will not do the silks themselves justice. When you note these prices you cannot dream of what the silks are like—they are such good values. For instance this new grade of rough pongee that we have marked at 50 cents a yard. You would naturally think that it was 50c Pongee—but it is not; most stores would charge 70c to 85c for it. We are merely advertising these prices to show you that we have silks at any price you care to pay. To know what extra values they are you must see the silks.

Rough Pongee, 24 inches wide, all plain colors; guaranteed to give good service.....50c

A better grade of rough Pongee; same width and all colors.....75c

Foulards, all new shades, including brown, tan, gray, mulberry and Copenhagen blue; 24 inches wide.....65c

Louisiana silks; a special assortment and an extra good quality; fancy striped and checked patterns; the colors are Alice blue, resede, old rose, Wistaria, gray, brown, peacock and tan, 19 in. wide.....59c

All-Silk Pongee, 24 inches wide.....85c

All-silk Pongee, all colors and black; 27 inches wide.....\$1.00

Real Shantung Pongee, 33 inches wide.....\$1.25

Messaline Silks; evening and street shades; 19 inches wide.....75c and 85c

Plain Taffeta Silks; 19 inches wide; best spring shades, 65c and 75c

China Silks, best colors, 27 inches wide.....39c and 50c

Black Silks, including Taffeta, Messaline, Ditcher's Satin, Pride Cynos, Louisanes, China, Habutai and Pongee; all widths.....50c to \$2.00 a yard

LIPPINCOTT & CO.

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

New Caste County

Agricultural Fair!

The Middletown Transcript

Mails Close as Follows.

Going North—7:25 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
Going South—4:00 a.m., 4:15 p.m., and 9 p.m.
For Odessa—7:50 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 4:00 p.m.
For Warwick, Cecilton and Earlville 9:20 a.m., and 4:45 p.m.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL., APRIL 17, 1909

Local News

Choice Seed Oats for sale at
EVANS' FEED STORE.

A heavy rainfall visited this section Wednesday and did much good.

Store room for rent—Brookston's old stand. Apply to T. S. OFFICE.

High-grade dental service. Examination and estimate, free. Dr. J. Allen Johnson, Middletown. Phone 18.

A lot of sample skirts, the kind you are always looking for, just arrived; 1/2 to 1 less than usual price. A. FOOTE.

The announcement that Col. Bob Seeds is to lecture in the Opera House, next Friday evening will be interesting to our readers.

The meeting of the New Century Club next Tuesday afternoon, will be in charge of Mrs. Jesse L. Shepherd and the subject will be "Rome."

Dr. J. C. Stiles has removed his dental office to the building recently vacated by the Western Union Telegraph Co., next door to J. L. Shepherd's office.

Don't forget Col. Bob Seeds will lecture in the Middletown Opera House, on Friday evening next, April 23rd, under the auspices of the New Century Club.

The new special postoffice delivery stamps now on sale is patterned after stamps of French design. It measures about an inch square and is of a dark green color.

Send your items and personal notices into the paper, that is the way to help make it interesting. Just sign your name, we won't publish it, and then the article will be sure of getting in.

COAL FOR APRIL DELIVERY \$6.50 FOR GUARANTEED TON OF 2240 LBS. DELIVERED. PURE HIGH-GRADE COAL. G. E. HUKILL.

FOR SALE—Rose Comb Rhode Island Red eggs by the setting or in hundred lots, eggs fresh and fertility guaranteed. C. P. COCHRAN.

Middletown, Del.
We now have stored in our warehouses, Middletown and Bear, Del., FERTILIZERS for all Spring crops by bag or ton. Also car of choice SEED OATS. Phone 5. JESSE L. SHEPHERD.

High-grade dental service. Examination and estimate, free. Dr. J. Allen Johnson, Middletown. Phone 18.

EGGS FOR SETTING.—White Plymouth Rock eggs, 15 for \$1.00. My Rock is the Rhode Island Red, none are better. Pekin Duck eggs, 13 for \$1.00. Fertility guaranteed. Mrs. L. C. ROGERS.

Felton, Del.
We have just received a carload of Badger Dairy Feed, which we are selling at \$30.00 per ton. Also a carload of Superior Horse and Mule Feed, which we are selling at \$31.00 per ton. Special discount to patrons.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL.
The program for last week's meeting at the New Century Club included Current Events, Foreign Events, by Mrs. Charles Derrington; National Events, by Mrs. Marie L. Lockwood; and State Events, by Miss Mary Hutcheson.

The Rev. W. M. Moberg, State Councilor of the Jr. O. U. A. M. will visit Middletown Council No. 2, on Monday evening next. The members of the local order, are making arrangements to entertain their guest in a royal manner.

The Town Assessment List for the year 1909 is now hanging up in the writing room of the Middletown Hotel and will remain until May 24th—Appeal Day. The Board of Appeals will sit in the Town Council room from 9 A. M. to 12 M., and from 2 to 5 P. M. to hear appeals.

Messrs. Robert L. and Grover C. Johnson, who are living in Boston, Mass., were two of the successful contestants in the Boston American base ball query which closed in that city last week. Their numerous friends here will be pleased to learn of their success in the contest.

Unclaimed Letters.—The following list of letters remain unclaimed in the post office for the week ending April 8th: Miss Annie G. Knox, Mrs. Emma Francis, Mr. Bryant Davis, Mr. J. H. Davis (Dead Letter), Mr. John Dudley, F. S. Furman, Mr. Ben. Garner, Mr. Thomas Lacy.

William Alexander, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Monro, died at his parents residence, on East Main Street, Tuesday evening, April 13th, aged 14 months and 20 days. The remains were entered in Forest Cemetery on Thursday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Monro have the sympathy of the community in their loss.

The machinery for the new ice plant of the Middletown Farms Creamery has arrived, and a large force of men are now engaged in installing it, and Mr. Brady hopes to have the plant in operation by the first of May. The new boiler has been tested and is now carrying steam, and everything will be in readiness when the workmen complete their task of putting in the machinery.

It is the general opinion that the peach blossoms were seriously damaged by the freeze this week. Over half of the buds were killed and the chances for the remainder of the crop maturing are very slim. Peaches and cherries escaped with little damage. Apples and strawberries are not advanced far enough to be injured.

The 25th annual encampment of the Department of Delaware, Grand Army of the Republic, will be held in Irish-American Hall, Wilmington, on Thursday, May 6th. Commander in Chief Henry M. Nevins has notified us he will pay us an official visit during our encampment. The encampment will be called to order promptly at ten o'clock.

We just received a large stock of untrimmed hats from New York, all the very latest shapes. A. FOOTE.

Col. Bob Seeds will lecture in the Middletown Opera House, Friday evening, April 23rd. Come out and hear him.

While unloading hay, at Mt. Pleasant, Ex-State Senator H. C. Ellison was painfully injured Tuesday morning. The horses the Senator was driving became frightened, and while endeavoring to stop them he was knocked down by them and the horses and wagon passed over him, cutting an ugly gash in his nose, mauling his foot and bruising his body severely.

The body of John Henry, the colored man who died suddenly in this town a few weeks ago, was exhumed on Tuesday, and several of the organs were removed and sent to the State Laboratory at Newark for examination. Attorney General Gray is having a thorough examination made in the case, and if the man was poisoned he hopes to get sufficient evidence to convict the guilty person or persons who gave Henry the drug.

The Sunday School of St. Paul's M. E. Church, Odessa, will render a beautiful Easter exercise to-morrow (Sunday) evening. It has been the custom for a number of years for this school to celebrate this Holy day by giving a special service in the evening. The one selected for Sunday is very appropriate, consisting of beautiful songs and recitations. A cordial invitation is extended to all. Service will begin at 7:30 o'clock.

Workmen are engaged in taking up the rails and ties of the trolley track in the town limits and in a few days the work will be completed, and the O. & M. trolley line will then be forgotten. The street where the track is being removed is to be put in good condition by the owners of the track, and our Town Commissioners should not permit them to slight the work, as the expense of improving the street would then fall on the taxpayers.

Since the warm rain Wednesday nature is showing signs of the revival that has been going on annually from the beginning of time. The trees are ready to burst into bloom. The early blossoms have appeared, the bluebird and the robin are heard in the fields and on the lawns. The waterman is calculating on his catch of fish while his dryland neighbor is planting his garden. But aside from the signs of spring in the country and town, there are unmistakable signs of the advent of the soft months of listless effort and languorous enjoyment in the activities of the men, women and children in the front yards of the town. Never has there been so much attention given the subject of beautifying these places as to-day. All periodicals contain hints and observations on garden methods and plants so that the dissemination of horticultural knowledge is wide spread.

THE NEW "CLIO"

The Odessa Steamboat Company is Having A Boat Built.

Every good citizen of this community will be delighted to hear that Odessa is to have a new boat, and if the plans of the Odessa Steamboat Company, (Incorporated) do not fail, the boat will be completed and running by July 4th.

The new boat will bear the same name as its predecessor—"Clio," and her equipment will be about the same as the old boat, with one exception—she will not have state rooms for the accommodation of passengers, but anyone desiring to make a trip on the boat can do so, but the management will not be able to accommodate them with a state room.

The boat is being built by the Clinton Ship Building Co., in Philadelphia, and a Baltimore firm has the contract to furnish the machinery, and the work is being pushed as rapidly as possible.

The officers of the new company are: Alex. P. Corbit, President; Jesse L. Shepherd, Vice-President; Frank B. Watkins, Manager and Treasurer; Joseph G. Brown, Secretary; and the Directors are Joseph G. Brown, Daniel Corbit, L. V. Asplir, Joseph L. Gibson and John Watkins.

SUBSCRIBERS TAKE NOTICE

We have just gone over and revised our mailing list and bills are being sent out. Not everybody will receive a bill. Only those whose subscriptions are due and those in arrears are receiving them. Those falling due from now on can readily see when their subscription expires by referring to the "little pink label." After your name and address will be found the date up to which your subscription is paid.

According to a ruling of the postal authorities we are not permitted to mail a paper to any subscriber who is more than one year in arrears.

THE EASTER DANCE

The young men of Middletown gave their annual Easter Dance in the Opera House on Monday evening last, and while the attendance was not large, the participants pronounced it one of the most delightful affairs ever given in the local Opera House.

The music was furnished by the First Infantry Orchestra, of Wilmington, and to say it was fine is not doing the musicians justice.

The patronesses were: Mrs. George V. Peverly, Mrs. George L. Townsend, Mrs. Clarence E. Pool, Mrs. Frank R. Pool, Mrs. George J. Warner and Mrs. Harry S. Brady.

Fruit Badly Damaged

WYOMING, April 15th.—It is generally admitted that fruit was badly damaged by the freezing weather last week, and while the exact results will not be known for several days, it is believed that a two-thirds of the peach crop is gone, while peaches are badly hurt. Fortunately the weather was dry when the freeze came, but as ice formed on two successive nights, the tender shoots could not stand the test, except where the buds were not fully opened, and where the buds had not developed much of the fruit will be saved.

PERSONALITIES.

Miss Susie Foard has returned from Wilmington.

Miss Viola McWhorter is the guest of relatives in Philadelphia.

Mr. A. Fogel spent part of this week in New York, buying goods.

Mrs. George L. Townsend, Jr., has returned from Wilmington.

Miss Carrie Roe, of Massey, Md., was the guest of Mrs. Redgrave this week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Sterling Evans, of Elkton, Md., visited her parents this week.

Miss Ethel Knight, of Wilmington, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Taylor.

Warren Ellicott, of Wilmington, spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Massey.

Mrs. M. L. Griffith and son, Joseph, of Philadelphia, visited her parents near here this week.

Mrs. H. N. Crane, of Sparrows Point, was the guest of her sisters, the Misses Gill, this week.

Mr. John F. Melvin, of Long Island, N. Y., was a Sunday visitor at the home of W. F. Pearce.

Jesse R. Willis, of Philadelphia, was a guest at the home of his father, Mr. M. Willis, this week.

Miss Amarilla Gambrell, of New Castle, spent Saturday and Sunday as the guest of Miss Gertrude McCrone, on Green street.

Miss Frame, of Milford, is the guest of her niece, Miss Mollie Wilson, on West Main street.

Miss Mary Hulsebeck, of Philadelphia, was entertained the first of the week by Miss Rosie Weber.

Mrs. W. H. Moore is spending some time with her daughter, Mrs. Ernest G. Windle, in West Chester, Pa.

Mr. D. W. Hutchins and daughter, of Philadelphia, spent several days with his brother, Rev. W. H. Hutchins.

Misses Florence and Sophia Blome spent Monday with their sister, Mrs. Frank Lamborn, at Woodside.

Mrs. D. P. Bannard and sons, of Wilmington, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Reynolds part of this week.

Mrs. H. M. Schroeder gave a very pleasant "Nickel Tea" on Tuesday, at the adjournment of the New Century Club.

Ex-Sheriff and Mrs. Paul I. Gillis, of near New Castle, were guests of their daughter, Mrs. J. J. Northup on Saturday.

Mrs. Carl Harrington and little son, of Baltimore, Md., are spending sometime with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Cochran.

Mrs. Joseph Miller and little son, of Dover, have been spending several days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Pearce.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Comegys, of Philadelphia, spent part of this week with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Comegys.

Mrs. M. A. Hall, who has been spending the winter in Philadelphia, with her sister, Mrs. Murphy, spent Easter Sunday at her home here.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Dempsey and little daughter, Pauline, of Newport, spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Ebenbofer.

Mrs. W. P. Cullen and daughter, Miss Hattie, attended the funeral of Mrs. Ase Rogers, who was buried in Frederica on Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. J. F. Plummer, who has been the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Cochran, returned to her home in North Carolina the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Vossell entertained a few relatives over Easter in honor of the marriage of their son, Roy D., to Miss Myrtle A. Brodbeck, of Orbesonia, Pa. The happy pair left on the 9:30 train, Monday morning, for their new home in Wilmington, N. C.

LETTER TO W. D. BRADFORD

Middletown, Del.
Dear Sir: Suppose you are feeding pigs milk; how much will you gain by watering milk a quarter? half? three-quarters? 100 quarts whole milk they sleep 80 of milk and 20 of water they equal 50 " 50 " more equal 25 " 75 " still equal 0 " 100 " no equal

Suppose you are painting a house; how much will you gain by paint adulterated a quarter? half? three-quarters?

10 gallons Devos put-on \$50
15 " " " 75
20 " " " 100
40 " " " 200

The cost of paint put-on is about \$5 a gallon, no matter what paint you buy. But nobody really gets 40 gallons on a 10-gallon job; so nobody really pays \$200 for painting a 600 job; he stops at about \$100. Two cost of 1-paint-and-4-trash doesn't make a good job; nor three; nor four.

These lessons are useful.

Yours truly
F. W. DEVOS & CO.
P. S.—J. F. McWhorter & Son sell our paint.

SPECIAL PREMIUMS

L. Scott Townsend, secretary of the New Castle County Agricultural Fair Association, is sending out letters asking for contributions to the list of special premiums to be awarded at the fair. This is a copy of the letter:

"Wilmington, Del., April 10, 1909.
"Feeling sure of your interest in the New Castle county fair, which will be held at the Gentlemen's Driving Park, August 31, September 1, 2 and 3, the executive committee takes this opportunity to ask you to contribute to the list of special premiums to be awarded at the fair.

"Either cash or merchandise may be subscribed and you are asked to fill in and return the attached blank on or before April 24, in order that you may be given mention of your gift in the annual premium list. Contributions will not be collected until the 25th of August, when they will be shown to the public.

"Very truly yours,
"L. Scott Townsend,
"Secretary."

PRESBYTERY MEETS IN WILMINGTON

Extensive preparations for the seventy-eighth stated meeting of the New Castle Presbytery, which will be in session in West Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, next Tuesday and Wednesday, are being made, and it is expected that this will be by far the most important meeting the organization has ever held on account of the added strength of the church.

The principal purpose for which the meeting has been called is for the selection of four commissioners to represent the organization at the general assembly of the church, in Denver, this year, but there are a number of other important matters up for the consideration of the body.

At the meeting it is expected that the Rev. George F. Nason, who presented his resignation to the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, last Sunday, and the Rev. J. N. McDowell, pastor of Pitts Creek Church, Pocomoke City, Md., will be absolved from the Presbytery, as both of them have presented papers to that effect. There will be several young pastors received into the Presbytery and a new moderator will be elected to take the place of Rev. J. E. Eggert, whose term expires.

DECLARED DEAD

Sidney J. Porter is legally dead, and letters of administration upon his estate Wednesday were granted by Register of Willis Walker to Attorney J. Frank Bigger. Porter has not been heard from for fifteen years, and is beneficiary under the will of his grandfather, Jesse Porter deceased last of Pocomoke Hundred to the extent of upward of \$100, hence the necessity of authority to administer upon his estate and close both of them.

The last news of Porter was received in 1895, when he was in San Francisco, enroute for the Klondike gold fields. Since that time no word has been received from him, and it is presumed that he has perished in the rush for the gold, which, at that time, numbers of people believed could be picked up by the half-faint almost anywhere in that land of promise. Every effort has been made to locate the missing man, but without success, and as the laws of Delaware provide that letters on an estate may be issued after the party has been missing for seven years, that action was taken Wednesday. His mother Mrs. Catherine Robinson Porter Nelson, is a resident of New Haven, Conn.

OFFICERS NAMED

Members of the board of trustees of the New Castle county workhouse held their tenth annual meeting Tuesday at the institution at Greenbank. The term of J. Frank Ball having expired on March 29 and having been reappointed for another term of five years, it was necessary to hold an election for the selection of officers to serve during the ensuing year. The election resulted in the selection of the same men, who had served last year, as follows: President, George G. Kerr; secretary, J. Frank Ball; treasurer, Joseph L. Carpenter, Jr.

The trustees decided to arrange with the members of the Levy Court for a date which they could meet together, for the purpose of discussing the proposition of building county roads in the vicinity of the workhouse by convict labor. The trustees are anxious to come to some terms on this basis with the Levy Court, and as it would be a plan, whereby the county would be saved much money, it is thought the Levy Courtmen will be willing to enter into such an agreement.

DEES SHOT GUN AND REVOLVER

CLAYTON, April 14.—Quite a serious shooting affray took place among the colored residents at the tenant house of Daniel Thompson, near Clayton, Tuesday morning about 6 o'clock, when Frank Starkey shot John Mitchell with a single barrel shot gun. The load took effect in the right knee, completely shattering it to pieces as the men stood about 10 feet apart. When the gun was discharged Starkey attempted to reload it but was prevented by Mitchell. He then drew a revolver and pulled the trigger twice, but the weapon would not fire, thus probably preventing a murder. Mitchell's wounds were dressed by Dr. J. S. Cobb, and he was hurried to the Delaware Hospital at Wilmington in charge of officer W. M. Boyer. Upon their arrival in Wilmington, two warrants were placed in the hands of State Detective Gillis to be served on Mitchell as he was wanted for violation of the local option laws. Immediately after the shooting Starkey gave himself up to Justice of the Peace, A. H. Skinner of Clayton, who admitted him to bail in the sum of \$500, bail being furnished by John W. Houston.

CECILTON

John Anderson was a Baltimore visitor this week.

Miss Penola VanBuskirk, of Baltimore, is visiting relatives.

Miss Regina Price spent Monday with Miss Blanche Brown.

Miss Emma Morgan, of Chesapeake City, is visiting Mrs. Mellicka Lusby.

Clifford Hoover spent Tuesday and Wednesday last week in Philadelphia.

Owen Griffith, of Philadelphia spent Sunday and Monday with his parents, here.

Alexander Jackson, of Wilmington, spent the Easter holidays with his father, here.

Mr. Robert Ferguson and Thomas Critchank spent Thursday in Chester-town.

Miss Mollie McCoy, of Elkton, was entertained on Easter by her mother, Mrs. J. P. McCoy, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel T. Moffitt, of Still Pond, were the guests of Mrs. Mary Anderson on Sunday.

William Anderson, of St. John's College, Annapolis, is spending the holidays with his mother, here.

Miss Lillie Short, who is attending business college in Philadelphia, is spending some time with her parents, Mr. E. S. Short and wife.

THE TRANSCRIPT, \$1.00 per year.

M. P. APPOINTMENTS

C. M. Cullum Returns to Warwick, Md. Charge

The Methodist Protestant Conference in session at Baltimore adjourned Tuesday evening after making the following appointments for the Peninsula.

Cambridge—J. L. Ward.
Campbell—J. R. Wright.
Cannon—P. L. Rice.
Caroline—Carroll Maddox.
Centerville—Dorsey Blake.
Chester—F. T. Little.
Clayton—W. N. Sherwood.
Concord—F. N. Clift.
Orieifield—Louis Randall.
Crumpton—J. E. Nicholson.
Delmar—S. A. Wright.
Denton—F. T. Benson.
Dorchester—G. E. Brown.
Dover and Leipsic—Clayborne Phillips.
Federalburg—C. M. E. derdie.
Felton—W. F. Roberts.
First Church Newark—W. S. Phillips.
Franklin City—E. H. Jones.
Frederica—To be supplied.
Georgetown—E. P. Perry.
Georgetown Circuit—W. C. Mumford supply.

Greenwood—A. W. Mather.
Harbeson—B. A. Bryan.
Harrington—S. J. Smith.
Hurlock—G. J. Hooker.
Indian River—J. E. Maloy.
Kent Island—J. H. Wright.
Laurel—Avery Donovan.
Laurel Circuit—G. R. Donaldson.
Lewes—W. W. Johnson, supply.
Mardela—A. A. Harayman.
Millville—F. L. Stevens.
Milton—J. D. Smith.
Mount Pleasant—To be supplied.
Newmarket—H. W. D. Johnson.
Parkside—G. M. Clayton.
Pocomoke Circuit—M. R. Evans, supply.

Pocomoke City—G. I. Humphreys.
Queen Anne—J. W. Parrie.
Reliance—J. F. Bryan.
Salisbury—W. R. Graham.
Seaford—J. E. Linsinger.
Sharpton—C. K. McCaslin.
Snow Hill—L. A. Bennett.
Union—N. C. Olong.
Warwick—C. M. Cullum.
West Wilmington—J. W. Gibson, supply; G. L. Wolf, supernumerary.
Wilmington—Unsupplied.

Left without appointment at own request—G. R. McCready and G. E. Betans.

ODESSA

Mrs. A. S. Whitlock is spending this week in Baltimore.

Mr. Harry Krommeir, of Wilmington, spent Monday here.

Mr. Charles St. John, of Washington, D. C., is visiting Mrs. L. James.

Mrs. John Kielkopf and daughter are spending this week in Philadelphia.

Mr. George Gibson spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gibson.

Rev. R. L. Hallett was a visitor in Philadelphia the first few days of this week.

Mr. Pierce Stevens left Monday for Philadelphia, where he will spend some time.

Misses Helen and Mary Townsend are spending this week with relatives in Wilmington.

Mr. John Kielkopf, Jr., spent Monday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Kielkopf.

Miss Lillian Murphy, of Wilmington, spent last week at the home of Mrs. J. W. Watkins.

Mrs. Edward Duer is spending this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Corbit.

Mrs. Walter Woods and Miss Marion Mittin are spending this week in Atlantic City, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lightcap and son, Delaware, spent Sunday with Mrs. Maggie Lee, of Townsend.

Mrs. W. H. Eccles and daughter, Emma, spent a few days last week with relatives in Wilmington.

Mrs. Mary Hahn and Mrs. Caroline Hahn are spending this week with relatives in Philadelphia.

Mr. Frank Davis and wife and children spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Vandegrift.

Miss Neal Townsend, of New York City, is spending a week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Townsend.

Miss Mary Carpenter, of Middletown, spent a few days last week with Miss Emma Pennington, near town.

Miss Bertie M. Stevens left Wednesday for Chester, Pa. where she will spend some time with her sister, Mrs. John Stuart.

Miss Annie Gremminger has returned from Philadelphia, after spending a few days with her mother, Mrs. M. Gremminger.

Misses Elvora and Bertie Finley, of Wilmington, and Mr. J. M. Armstrong, of Middletown, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Armstrong, on Sunday last.

On Sunday evening the Easter exercises, which was postponed from last Sunday evening, will be held in St. Paul's M. E. church, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. Every one is cordially invited to be present.

Card of Thanks

To the friends and neighbors who so kindly assisted us in our bereavement and by kind words and acts have tried to lessen our sorrow, we extend our sincere thanks.

MR. AND MRS. WALTER MONRO.

CHIROPODY

MRS. JAMES

Corns, bunions, ingrowing nails or any afflictions of the feet antiseptically and painlessly treated by graduate chiropodists. Also Shampooing, Manicuring and Scalp Treatment.

OLD TRANSCRIPT BUILDING
South Broad St. MIDDLETOWN.

FIRE INSURANCE

Town Property, Farm Buildings, and Stock

TORNADO INSURANCE

Insure now against damage from wind storms

Life and Accident Insurance

GEORGE D. KELLEY,
Middletown, Del.

SUCCESS IN RAISING CHICKENS

BY USING

FINE OYSTER SHELLS

CHICKEN FOOD

MICA GRIT

CHARCOAL

POULTRY MEAT

FORCING FOOD

FOR SALE BY

W. S. LETHERBURY

Hawkins & Kalmbacker,

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE.

PAINTERS and

PAPER HANGERS

Estimates Cheerfully Furnished.

IF YOU ARE THINKING OF PAINTING YOUR HOUSE OR

HAVING THAT ROOM PAPERED, YOU SHOULD

SEE US AND GET OUR PRICES.

We contract to do Work anywhere

The Mediocrity of Charteris

BY RALPH STOCK

The sonata died away into the wailing of the wind about the ranch house walls, and Charteris turned from the piano to light a cigarette.

The stranger in the deep arm chair across the room stirred slightly, and uncrossed his legs.

I suppose you know your play magnificently, he suggested, with an affected indifference.

Only so so, said Charteris, cheerfully. I thought the same myself once, until I was told on the best authority that there was something vital lacking—technique or something.

I don't see it, protested the stranger.

Charteris shrugged a pair of broad, round shoulders.

No, you wouldn't, he said, bluntly, you're not of the elect; you can appreciate but not appraise; you know when a thing pleases you, but never pull it to pieces to see if its charm is produced correctly. For instance, you would deal in exactly the same way with these pictures, his glance indicating the walls of the room, they're all fair; quite good men have said they're fair.

The stranger rose from his chair, and made a slow detour of the room, examining each painting in turn, while Charteris watched him from the piano stool with a quizzical half smile.

You think they're pretty good? he queried at last.

I think they're uncommonly good, said the other, with a touch of asperity.

I thought you would, laughed Charteris, exultantly, but they're not; they average. So are the two novels I have written, which I dare say you have half-read at some time and thrown aside. He broke off with a short laugh. You must bear with a hermit's egotism; this is the first time for over a year that I have talked with any one who has a thought beyond a cow or horse. I have only entered on my novitiate to the prairie; give me another two years, and I shall have adapted myself.

The stranger slowly paced the room.

It's nothing to do with me, he said, I don't know you; if I did, I think you would rather annoy me—but why—all this? His gesture embraced the log walls of the room, the dreary glimpse of driving snow through the tiny, double framed window. It seems such infernal waste. Here are you, with capabilities most of us would give our eye teeth to possess, burying yourself in the wilderness to raise horses—or is it cattle?

Cattle, replied Charteris, short-horns. I find that with a little care I can raise good short-horns—far better short-horns than pictures, books or music, and that's something.

The stranger stopped in his stride, and regarded him fixedly. Charteris smiled wearily.

Yes, he said, you probably think me mad; perhaps I am, but I was sick of it—sick of going just so far and no further with everything I touched. Some men can easily satisfy themselves with it; others never realize it; but to a few mediocrity is a curse, a direct dispensation, and I am one of these. Never to do anything that matters; never to leave the rut; to feel instinctively but surely that you never will, try as you will. To struggle on the treadmill of life, climbing, and then to look back and find yourself exactly where you started; oh, I tell you I was sick of it! It's worse than failure; you can at least distinguish yourself by going to the bottom in record time.

Charteris flung the dead cigarette beneath the stove, and continued more slowly:

One day I realized that I had never done anything big, or strong; that I never should in the cramped life I was then living, so I left, and came here, where there is room, and sometimes—late especially—I believe I have put one foot over the dead line. I built this ranch from my own plans, and riders have told me it is the best appointed in the West. My short-horns—but I'm doing an unconscionable amount of talking. Let me fill your glass.

The stranger ignored the suggestion.

But surely, he said, surely there was something else; this absurd conviction of yours was not all that brought you here?

There was a pause, so prolonged that the stranger [was on the verge of a hasty apology.

Perhaps not, said Charteris, at

last. I'm not altogether sure myself. Sometimes I think it might have made a difference, at others I am sure it could have made none, and now—it is beside the question—she has been married a year, and is, I believe, happy.

I thought as much, said the other, quickly. This is a mood, prolonged, but a mood; it will pass, believe me, and you will go back where you belong.

Charteris's gaze was centered on the white square of windows. It was now quite dark, and the cold outside had increased, for the snow clung to the glass without melting. He shook his head slowly, squared his rounded shoulders, and rose from the piano stool.

I think not, he said, quietly. Do you like bed, and can you sleep between blankets? I'm afraid we don't run to sheets.

They entered a tiny bedroom off the sitting room and Charteris carried the lamp to the dressing table. When he turned the stranger was leaning over the back of an old portrait that hung on the wall. It was a clever piece of work, for the woman's face it depicted was not physically beautiful—the features were too irregular for that—yet the lighting and treatment had given it a mysterious, almost ethereal effect, strangely magnetic.

The stranger still examined it intently, his lips parted, his eyes fixed; the tenseness of the attitude arrested Charteris's attention.

You think it better than the others? he suggested. You're right, it is.

Is this, said the other, without turning his head, is this what might have made the difference?

Yes, said Charteris. Good night.

His hand was on the door. The other turned abruptly.

You must pardon me, he said. I had no wish to intrude—you see, she is my wife.

Morning broke with the storm still raging. The thermometer registered ten below zero, and the snow fell and drifted in ceaseless clouds.

A three days, blizzard, commented Charteris at the breakfast table, straight from the worst quarter: I shall never adapt myself enough to forget my poor devils of riders in weather like this, though they would be the first to resent pity. The cattle will drift south till they come to wire; the wire will be cut, perhaps and they'll go further south, and the men with them, and on, and on, until the storm is over or they drop. Excuse my grumblings, he added, reaching for the other's cup, to me there's nothing quite so depressing as a prairie blizzard.

The stranger went over to the window, and stood looking out at the cruel white clouds of driving snow.

It's very wonderful, he said slowly. It makes one feel small. I find myself respecting it inordinately. How long would it take to get to town?

Thirty miles, against this, reflected Charteris, and with a lively stable horse—about eight hours, if you got there at all, but don't talk of such things.

I must go, said the other, firmly. It is good of you to suggest my staying, but I must get back somehow to day.

It would be madness, Charteris protested, and you don't know these blizzards. I have no one to send with you.

There was a set abstraction in the other's eyes.

I know, he said, with quiet insistence, but I must go. She is in the town waiting, and I said I should be back. She will be anxious.

Charteris rose abruptly, and took down a fur coat behind the stove.

Put this on, he said. You can leave it at the hotel, and remember, if you get off the trail, let the horse take you. Don't try to take him—he knows his stable.

Outside the chill of death was in the air, and the men caught their breath in gasps as they plunged knee-deep through newly formed drifts on the way to the stable.

Presently the stranger leaned down from the saddle and held out a furnished hand.

Goodby, he said. It is hardly likely I shall ever have a chance of repaying your kindness, but if you come East—

Goodby, said Charteris, and

turned toward the house.

He closed the door, flung his cap behind the stove, and crossed to the window, where he stood restlessly drumming his fingers on the frozen pane. Then he drew a crumpled letter from his pocket, and read it from the second time:

.....We are on our way to Japan for the winter. I heard you were here, and made him stop off. I treated you abominably, but I have paid. He is all that he should be, and I have tried so hard to live the mistake down that he has never guessed, but it is quite impossible. I have reached the end and must see you somehow, somewhere, if you will come. I am at the hotel.

Charteris sank into the armchair and gazed stonily into the glow of the huge box stove, his thin, strong fingers mechanically tearing the sheet of paper into narrower and narrower ribbons; then he opened the door and thrust them back among the coals.

The rest of the day he busied himself with the stock, and by 10 o'clock that night the storm had cleared. The wind dropped, and a pale moon struggled intermittently through the dispersing cloud rack, shedding a sickly brilliance over the interminable snow plains.

Charteris stood at the open door, heedless of the coal. For the hundredth time he told himself that he had followed the only path of a strong man; but then he knew he was not a strong man. What further proof was needed? That morning he had thrust the disjointed appeal of a disillusioned girl from his mind with splendid finality, and now—he was voluntarily recalling every sentence, every word; dwelling on them, weighing them.

A coyote howled somewhere out in the white night, and others answered. To Charteris's overwrought brain there was something prophetic in the desolation about him. He slammed to the door and half an hour later was loping his toughest cow pony over the trail for town.

The faint whinny of a horse floated over the snow, followed by another, and yet another before Charteris found his own beast answering, and brushed the rime from his eyelashes to look about him. Nothing was visible but the same endless expanse of moonbathed snow, and far off to the right of the trail a solitary stunted tree that he knew to be the lone pine a well known landmark for miles around.

He sat for some time straining his eyes out over the snow, then suddenly turned his horse's head and loped toward it.

In a wide circle around the tree a hard path had been tramped in the snow. Inside it was a horse tethered by the bridle lines to one of the lower branches, the remains of a pitiful attempt at a fire, and a heap of snow covered fun. Charteris knew what lay beneath this last.

The man was alive but unconscious, the cold had penetrated to the brain. Charteris shook him violently; buffeted him with his clinched fists, hurled him from side to side in the snow till the perspiration streamed from his forehead. Then he took a box of matches from his pocket, struck one and applied it to the arm just below the elbow. A faint moan passed the man's lips; the eyelids fluttered and closed, and Charteris fell on him afresh, rubbing until his arms were numb from shoulder to wrist.

Wake up, man, he yelled, you hear wake up!

A dazed comprehension came into the man's eyes, and a twinge of pain distorted his face.

Ah, it's you, Charteris. Stop, man stop! You're hurting frightfully.

Charteris sank back exhausted. Wonderful thing, a blizzard, the other rambled on. Makes a man feel small. Deceptive, too—A cackle of muffled laughter came from behind the high fur collar. I thought this infernal tree was a house—think of it! Then I walked round it. Mercy! how many times did I walk round it?

Suddenly he sat up and looked around him. Charteris was sitting in the snow, still gasping.

You're played out, said the stranger. What have you been doing; when did you come?

Can you stand? said Charteris. No—then don't get excited. They'll put you right in town. Let me give you a leg up.

He lifted him with difficulty and thrust him into the Mexican saddle.

Sit there, he commanded, and try not to go to sleep, and don't talk.

The town was asleep when they

came to a steaming halt outside the hotel, but the night porter came out to them, and others were soon astir. The stranger huddled in a deep leather chair, as far from the stove as it had been possible to wheel him, but the warmth of the room had taken effect, and when the doctor came he was sleeping soundly.

The manager in shirt and trousers, ran his finger down the register.

Call Room 15, he ordered, tersely; tell the woman her husband is back—that there's been an accident—nothing serious.

Charteris, who was warming his mits at the stove, turned quickly toward the door. The manager followed and touched him on the shoulder.

Where are you off to? he demanded bluntly.

Back to the ranch, said Charteris.

What, at this? You must be crazy.

No, said Charteris, I'm unusually sane, that's all; goodnight. And he passed out through the swinging doors just before a blue kimono appeared at the head of the stairs.

At the ranch the foreman rode out to meet him. His thin, strong face was grave, and he leant down, flicking his riding boot with his quirt as he rode.

And the losses? queried Charteris.

Nasty snap, jerked the foreman, and they got tied up in the four mile coulee like a lot of sheep; near spring, too, they were weak all right. Fifty per cent, I guess.

Charteris stared away toward the white horizon.

Ah, yes, he commented absently. About half, eh?—Black and White.

NOTICE!

J. Harry Massey, owner and tenant of the house known as the Castwell House, situated at Odessa, in School District, No. 61, county of New Castle and State of Delaware, in compliance with the requirements of the acts of the General Assembly, in such cases made and provided, do hereby give notice that I shall apply in writing to the Court of General Sessions, in and for New Castle County, on MONDAY, the 31st day of May A. D. 1909, being the next term of said court, for a license of said house as an inn or tavern for the sale therein of intoxicating liquors in quantities less than one quart, to be drunk on the premises, and the following respectable citizens of said School District, at least six of whom are substantial freeholders of said School District, recommend the said application, viz: John Heiler, Thos. P. Wallace, John F. Morris, Charles Kronmeyer, John M. Greenminger, William Heller, Jos. Heller, Wm. E. Tucker, John Muehlberger, Levi A. Plummer, Wm. W. Greenminger, Henry Heller.

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Given under the hand and seal of the office of the Register of Wills aforesaid, said, at Wilmington, in New Castle County aforesaid, the day and year above written.

FRANCIS M. WALKER, Register of Wills.

Notice—Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration were in due form of law granted unto the undersigned on the Thirtieth day of January, A. D. 1909, and that all persons having claims against the estate of the deceased must present the same, duly attested to the said Administrator, on or before the Thirtieth day of January 1910, or abide the Act of Assembly in such cases made and provided.

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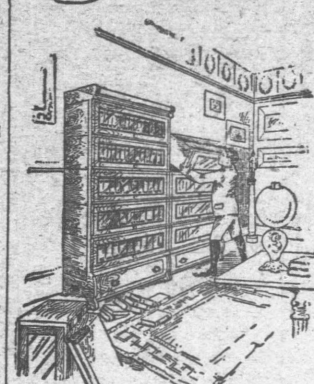
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